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Message Text

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20
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01

IO-10 /077 W
---------- 112114
R 091419Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7015
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3565

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR PINT IS EG XF
SUBJ: GOI CABINET MEETING IN PREPARATION FOR
RABIN WASHINGTON VISIT

REF: TEL AVIV 343

1. FOLLOWING SIX AND A HALF HOUR POLITICAL DEBATE
ON FORTHCOMING PM'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON, CABINET
UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED A SIX-POINT RESOLUTION (TEXT
REFTEL) WHICH IS GENERALLY INTERPRETED BY PRESS
AS GIVING PM RABIN FREE HAND TO CONDUCT TALKS
WITH PRESIDENT FORD ON THE BASIS OF EXISTING GOI
AND KNESSET DECISION. FOLLOWING IS FLAVOR OF
CABINET MEETING, AND REACTION TO IT AND TO COMMUNIQUE
AS GLEANED FROM INITIAL REPORTING BY
USUALLY WELL-INFORMED JOURNALISTS.

2. IN COURSE OF LENGTHY DISCUSSION CABINET REJECTED JOINT
PROPOSAL BY ILP AND MAPAM, WHO SOUGHT TO EMPHASIZE PREPARA-
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RATION OF AN OVERALL PEACE PLAN. ILP AND MAPAM,
HOWEVER, AT SAME TIME ENDORSED AN ATTEMPT AT
REACHING AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT IWHT EGYPT. THEY
EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION

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AND SOUGHT TO EXPRESS ISRAEL'S READINESS TO
NEGOTIATE WITH JORDAN AND WITH A RECOGNIZED
REPRESENTATIVE OF THOSE PALESTINIANS WHO ARE
READY TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL'S SOVEREIGNTY AND SIGN
A PEACE AGREEMENT WITH HER.

3. DISCUSSING THE COMPONENTS OF AN INTERIM
SETTLEMENT, MOST MINISTERS EMPHASIZED THE FOLLOWING
POINTS: DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT;. SECURITY
ARRANGEMENTS IN TERRITORIES WHICH IDF WILL EVACU-
ATE; AND CESSATION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC WAR
BY THE ARAB STATES AGAINST ISRAEL. YEDIOT POLITICAL
REPORTER (ZIMUKI) REPORTS THAT ON THE QUESTION
OF AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT " THERE WERE HARDLY ANY
DIFFERENCES OF OPINION AMONG THE MINISTERS..."

4. MAARIV (HARIF) REPORTS THAT IN SUMMING UP THE
DEBATE PM RABIN " EMPHASIZED THAT A LIMITED AGREE-
MENT--LIKE THE ONE WHICH IS UNDER DISCUSSION NOW--
DOES NOT CALL FOR A TOTAL WITHDRAWAL FROM
THE PASSES. THE PM THINKS THAT FROM A MILITARY
POINT OF VIEW ISRAEL CANNOT GIVE UP THE EASTERN
PART OF THE PASSES..."

5. ACCORDING TO HARIF, FM ALLON SAID THAT AN INTERIM
SETTLEMENT IS STILL THE MOST REALISTIC POSSIBILITY,
AT LEAST WITH EGYPT, BUT IN HIS VIEW " ISRAEL CANNOT
RETURN TO THE PROPOSALS MADE IN MARCH...UNLESS EGYPT
ALSO IS READY FOR REAL CONCESSIONS..." ALLON TOLD
CABINET THAT HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON THE CURRENT
EGYPTIAN POSITION. ON THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION
ALLON SPOKE AGAINST TALKING ABOUT CONTACTS WITH
PLO. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE SOLUTION OF THE
PALESTINIAN PROBLEM WAS VITAL, " BUT IT WOULD
BE A MISTAKE TO REGARD THE PLO AS THE AUTHORIZED
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIANS..." ALLON
PROPOSED THAT ISRAEL ATTEMPT TO REACH TOTAL SETTLE-
UNCLASSIFIED

MENT WITH SYRIA.

6 MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY BAR-LEV REPORT-
EDLY TALKED ABOUT THE NEED FOR " A SERIOUS MOVEMENT"
IN ORDER TO BREAK THE DEADLOCK CREATED SINCE THE
SUSPENSION OF THE TALKS IN MARCH. ACCORDING TO
HARIF, BAR-LEV MEANT THAT " A SERIOUS MOVEMENT"
CALLED FOR ISRAELI CONCESSIONS OVER AND ABOVE WHAT
ISRAEL HAD ALREADY AGREED, PROVIDED THERE IS MOVEMENT
ON THE EGYPTIAN SIDE ALSO. MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
YAACOBI IS REPORTED TO HAVE REJECTED THE IDEA OF
AN OVERALL PEACE PLAN BECAUSE IT COULD LEAD TO A
CONFRONTATION WITH THE US.

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7. MAARIV EDITORIAL STATES THAT GOI'S DECISION "NOT TO ACCEPT NOW THE CONDITIONS REJECTED IN MARCH, AND NOT TO MAKE CONCESSIONS UNLESS THE EGYPTIANS ARE ALSO READY TO MAKE CONCESSIONS, SHOWS STRENGTH AND ABILITY TO WITHSTAND PRESSURES. THIS POSITION IS IN LINE WITH THE MOOD OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PUBLIC...IT IS A FIRM REJECTION OF ANY ATTEMPT TO EXTRACT CONCESSIONS, TO FORCE WITHDRAWALS AND DICTATE POLICY..." MAARIV CONCLUDES THAT BY DECIDING THAT THERE WON'T BE UNILATERAL ISARELI CONCESSIONS, GOI HAS ADOPTED THE ONLY LOGICAL COURSE.

8. YEDIOT (GUNEY), ON THE OTHER HAND, REGARDS GOI'S DECISION AS "FLEXIBLE AND KEEPS OPTIONS OPEN CONCERNING A NEW INTERIM AGREEMENT ON CONDITION THAT EGYPT TOO SHOULD DEMONSTRATE FLEXIBILITY...THE GOVERNMENT HAS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO REEXAMINE ITS POSITION IF EGYPT ALSO REEXAMINES ITS STAND. IT THERE IS INDEED ANY TRUTH IN THE REPORTS WHICH HAVE COME FROM SALZBURG THAT AT LEAST ON THE MATTER OF THE DURATION OF THE UNEF MANDATE EGYPT IS READY TO SOFTEN HER POSITION THEN ISRAEL IS LIKELY TO CHANGE HER STAND, AND THUS THE WAY WOULD BE OPEN FOR AN INTERIM AGREEMENT..."
VELIOTES
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TELAV03565
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750201-0862
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750699/baaaaetn.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <20 JAN 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 971017
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, EG, IS, XF, (RABIN, YITZHAK)
To: STATE INFO AMMAN
BEIRUT
CAIRO
DAMASCUS
JIDDA
AMEMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

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